

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:  
Guy L. Grenier et al.

Group Art Unit: 2663

Serial No.: 09/392,454


Examiner: Derrick W. Ferris

**Filed: September 9, 1999**

Attorney Docket: 91436-193

# For: ATM PROTECTION SWITCHING METHOD AND APPARATUS

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231  
U.S.A.

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Dear Sir,

## RESPONSE

This responds to the Office Action mailed November 1, 2002 in the above application.  
Please amend the application, as follows:

## IN THE CLAIMS

**Insert new claims 22-26, as follows:**

22. (new) In a communications network in which ATM traffic is transported on a SONET network a method of switching traffic transported on a working ATM entity to a protection ATM entity, said method comprising:

- a. monitoring an indicator of signal degrade of said working entity by monitoring an indicator of signal degrade in SONET overhead on said SONET network;

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